

From: Tom Miller
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/21/02 1:45pm
Subject: Too Easy on Microsoft

I just want to voice my concerns about what appears to be too little too late. Those of us who have had to deal with Microsoft Windows in its many flavors, since the early 90's, know full well that the company has not disclosed all necessary information to 3rd parties.

I have been using Wordperfect and Lotus products from the old DOS days and have preferred to keep using those products. However, the stability of Wordperfect, for one, in the Windows environment leaves much to be desired. It is obvious Microsoft has inside information that allows them to produce an office suite that works within Windows far better than anyone else.

Additionally, I find it abhorrent that the government is too stupid to realize that the bundling of applications, and Internet Explorer is just another application, is against the most basic of our anti-trust laws. We, the consumer and the competition, need government intervention to stop Microsoft from continually abusing its position. I want choices and I do not want Microsoft bundled products. I want a choice of all office suites when I buy a PC, not just Microsoft Office. I want a choice of what browser and email programs are on my PC, not just Microsoft's. Furthermore, I want those programs to work at least as good as Microsoft's within the Window's environment. I am sick and tired of Microsoft bundling software with the operating system and jamming it down our throats. I don't need Microsoft to provide email software like Outlook Express or even Outlook, that is so full of security holes that I might just as well post a web site banner saying "send viruses here".

Unfortunately, there are too many consumers who are totally clueless and accept everything Microsoft hands down. The government needs to realize these people have no idea there are choices that may be better than what Microsoft has provided. Listen to the IS people, the IT people, the engineers and technical people - we are all saying Microsoft needs a short leash and now.

Judge Jackson was correct in his assessment that Microsoft should be broken up as part of the remedy. What is done now must be severe and strict controls must be put in place as soon as possible. The gov't already dropped the ball by letting Microsoft issue Windows XP with even more bundled crap. It is time to level the playing field and get Microsoft under control.

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